

Message Text

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ACTION OPR-02

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P 310900Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1337

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 1815

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ALOW, SY

SUBJ: EDUCATION ALLOWANCE REVIEW REPORT

1. AT THE PRESENT TIME THE ONLY CERTIFIED SCHOOLS AVAILABLE TO THIS POST'S DEPENDENT CHILDREN ARE LOCATED IN BEIRUT. AMERICAN CHILDREN GENERALLY ATTEND THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL (ACS) IN BEIRUT.

ACS FEES FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 1974/75 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| REGISTRATION FEE | 10.00 |
|------------------|-------|

DAY STUDENTS ANNUAL TUITION FEES

| | |
|--|----------|
| 1/2 DAY KINDERGARTEN (IF OFFERED) | 700.00 |
| FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN THRU SIXTH | 1,400.00 |
| SEVENTH THRU TWELFTH | 1,675.00 |
| EXPANSION FEE (1/2 DAY KINDERGARTEN) | 50.00 |
| EXPANSION FEE (FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN THRU TWELFTH) | 100.00 |

BOARDING STUDENTS ANNUAL FEES

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| REGISTRATION | 10.00 |
| TUITION | 1,675.00 |
| BOARDING RESIDENCE FEE | 2,500.00 |
| LAUNDRY FEE | 50.00 |
| EXPANSION FEE | 100.00 |

4,335.00

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| TRANSPORTATION: R/T DAMASCUS/BEIRUT | 100.00 |
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(3 TRIPS INCLUDING CHRISTMAS & EASTER HOLIDAYS) 4,435.00

2. IN DAMASCUS THERE IS AN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OFFERING GRADES FROM KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TENTH. PRIOR TO 1967, THIS SCHOOL GENERALLY WAS ATTENDED BY EMBASSY DEPENDENT CHILDREN. HOWEVER, THE ACADEMIC QUALITY OF THE SCHOOL AT THIS TIME IS UNCERTAIN AND IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT SOME PARENTS WILL WANT THEIR CHILDREN TO ATTEND SCHOOL IN BEIRUT. FOR THIS REASON IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE ALLOWANCE RATES, BOTH "AT POST" AND "AWAY FROM POST" FOR DAMASCUS BE BASED ON THE FEES FOR ACS BEIRUT. THE FEES FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL IN DAMASCUS FOR 1974/75 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

| | |
|--------------|----------|
| KINDERGARTEN | \$310.00 |
| GRADE 1-2 | 495.00 |
| GRADE 3-4 | 555.00 |
| GRADE 5-6 | 610.00 |
| GRADE 7-8 | 680.00 |
| GRADE 9-10 | 740.00 |

IT IS ALSO CONCEIVABLE THAT PARENTS OF CHILDREN WHO HAVE ATTENDED FRENCH SCHOOLS AT THEIR LAST POST WILL WANT TO HAVE THE CHILDREN CONTINUE IN THE FRENCH SCHOOL IN DAMASCUS WHOSE FEES FOR 1974/75 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| REGISTRATION FEE | \$ 30.00 |
| SOLIDARITY FEE | 15.00 |
| KINDERGARTEN | 220.00 |
| PRIMARY CLASSES | 250.00 |
| SECONDARY CLASSES | 275.00 |
| LANGUAGE CLASS ## | 275.00 |

FOR NON-FRENCH SPEAKING PUPILS BORN BETWEEN 1957-1965.

3. ACTION REQUEST

THE CURRENT EDUCATION ALLOWANT RATES FOR DAMASCUS ARE PRESENTLY TOTALLY INADEQUATE AND NEED TO BE INCREASED.

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4. INASMUCH AS CLASSES START IN EARLY SEPTEMBER IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF THE INCREASES ARE APPROVED IMMEDIATELY AND THAT THE POST BE ADVISED OF THIS ACTION TELEGRAPHICALLY. THIS IS NECESSARY SINCE IT IS THE POST'S UNDERSTANDING THAT REIMBURSEMENT FOR FEES PAID BY PARENTS CANNOT BE APPROVED RETROACTIVELY, IN CASES WHERE ALLOWANCE RATES ARE INCREASED AFTER FEES HAVE BEEN PAID. IF THIS ASSUMPTION IS NOT CORRECT

PLEASE ADVISE.

5. DELAYED SUBMISSION OF THIS REPORT AND REQUEST FOR
THE INCREASE IS DUE TO THE FACT THAT THIS EMBASSY
ONLY RECENTLY REOPENED.
MURPHY

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